



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 19, 2006

FACT SHEET

SANDERS HEADS BACK TO WASHINGTON, DC NEXT WEEK FOR IMPORTANT SAN DIEGO ISSUES

HOMELAND SECURITY, WAR MEMORIAL AND BI-NATIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ISSUES TOP AGENDA FOR THE MAYOR

Mayor Jerry Sanders will be heading to Washington, D.C. next week (Sunday, May 21 – Tuesday, May 23) for the third time during his first six months in office to lobby on behalf of projects important to San Diego taxpayers.

The Mayor will be meeting with federal officials to garner support for:

1. Homeland Security funding;
2. The Mt. Soledad National War Memorial; and
3. Critical bi-national infrastructure and economic development projects.

The Mayor will be joined by Eugenio Elorduy Walther, the Governor of Baja California, and a delegation of business and government leaders from both sides of the United States/Mexico border. Mayor Sanders is the first San Diego mayor to: lead a delegation to Washington to discuss important bi-national economic development issues; and to be joined by a Baja California governor.

HOMELAND SECURITY FUNDING

- Mayor Sanders will meeting with both of the state's federal senators, Barbara Boxer and Dianne Feinstein, as well as members of the Congressional delegation, to further impress upon them the need for homeland security funding.
- The Mayor will also be meeting with officials from the Department of Homeland Security to lobby of behalf of funding.

MT. SOLEDAD NATIONAL WAR MEMORIAL

- Mayor Sanders has promised that he will do everything possible to preserve the integrity of the Memorial. During his trip, the Mayor will meet with federal officials to explore what options may be available at the federal level.

BI- NATIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ISSUES

- **Expansion of the San Ysidro Port of Entry.** Mayor Sanders and Governor Elorduy, and their respective delegations, will impress upon U.S. federal officials the importance of an expansion of the San Ysidro Border Crossing. This is one of the two most important projects related to border port of entry infrastructure.

The proposal is to increase the northbound lanes from 24 to 30, with the possible use of tandem booths (like the check-out lanes at Target stores) and to connect to Mexico's new and proposed border crossing El Chaparral. This approximate \$500 million project has an existing \$168 million authorization by Congress, of which \$34 million has been appropriated.

- **East Otay Mesa Port of Entry and State Route 11.** Planning for and advancing a third port of entry at East Otay Mesa will improve the efficient movement of people, goods and services between the United States and Mexico.

The delegation will meet with officials from the three relevant federal agencies: the State Department; the Department of Homeland Security and the General Services Administration.

- **Economic Impact.** More than \$23 billion in imports and exports flows through local border crossings each year, according to an April report released by SANDAG.

In the same report, SANDAG reported how current wait times have contributed to a loss of potential economic output exceeding \$2.4 billion and a loss of more than 32,000 jobs for the San Diego region and Baja California combined. San Diego County loses \$455 million in annual revenue from reduced freight traffic activity associated with long wait times at regional border crossings.

- Mayor Sanders and Governor Elorduy intend to use the report as the foundation for their new coalition and united support for greater federal assistance for expansion of the ports of entry.

San Diego Delegation

Mayor Jerry Sanders

Nikki Clay

Jessie Knight

John McNeece

James Clark

Malin Burnham

Mary Walshok

Chairman

President/CEO

Chairman

Director General

Chairman

Asst. Vice Chancellor University of California San Diego

San Diego Regional Chamber of Commerce

San Diego Regional Chamber of Commerce

Mexico Business Center

Mexico Business Center

Burnham Enterprises

San Diego Delegation (con't)

Gary Gallegos	Director	San Diego Association of Governments
Sandy Shapery	President	Shapery Enterprises
Karen Hutchens	President	Strategia
Alejandra Mier y Teran	Executive Director	Otay Mesa Chamber of Commerce

Baja California Delegation

Eugenio Elorduy Walther	Governor	Baja California
Jorge D'Garay	Governor's Advisor	Baja California
Luis Cabrera	Counsel General of Mexico	San Diego Office
Alejandro Moreno	Secretary of Tourism	Baja California
Jose Gabriel Posada	Secretary of Education	Baja California
Ing. Arturo Espinosa	Secretary of Border Infrastructure	Baja California
Rodrigo Gutierrez	Director	CENTRIS
Daniel Romero	President	Consejo Empresarial
Sergio Montez	Undersecretary of Infrastructure	Baja California